

REMARKS

Objection to the Abstract

In the Office Action the abstract was objected to because lines 1-2 repeat information given in the title. The Applicants have amended the abstract and therefore respectfully request the Examiner withdraw this objection.

35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejections

In the Office Action claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Claims 1, 13, and 20, which were the underlying independent claims for all of the above rejected claims, have been cancelled rendering these rejections moot.

Added claims

Claims 25-27 have been added.

Claim 25, for example, recites:

An apparatus comprising:

a target area;

a flash lamp to produce light rays; and

a reflecting device having a first reflective zone with a first reflectivity and a second reflecting zone with a second reflectivity that is different from the first reflectivity, the reflecting device adapted to receive at least a portion of the light rays and to reflect at least some of the received light rays substantially towards a first side of the target area.

It is clear that none of the cited articles, either alone or in combination, teach, suggest, or discuss "a reflecting device having a first reflective zone with a first reflectivity and a second reflective zone with a second reflectivity that is different from the first reflectivity," as recited in claim 25, for example. Therefore, claim 25 is patentably distinct from the cited articles for at least this reason.

Likewise claims 2-12, 14-19, 21-24, and 26-27 all either depend from claim 25 or include a limitation similar to the above-discussed limitation. Therefore these claims are also patentably distinct from the cited articles for at least the above-discussed reason.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, the Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2-12, 14-19, and 21-27 are in condition for allowance. Thus, early issuance of Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any questions, he is invited to contact the undersigned at (503) 796-2972.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge shortages or credit overpayments to Deposit Account No. 500393.

Respectfully submitted,
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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Replacement sheets 1-3 including Figs. 1-7 are submitted to replace the originally filed sheets 1-5 including Figs. 1-7. Other than formalizing the drawings, no changes have been made to Figs. 1-7.